

TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Sara Kyle, Chairman
Deborah Taylor Tate, Director
Pat Miller, Director
Ron Jones, Director

460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

August 14, 2002

Ms. Susan W. Smith
Director – Government Relations
CenturyTel
P.O. Box 4065
Monroe, LA 71211

Re: TRA Docket No. 02-00829 – CenturyTel of Adamsville Tariff to Introduce Late Payment Charges

TRA Docket No. 02-00830 – CenturyTel of Claiborne Tariff to Introduce Late Payment Charges

TRA Docket No. 02-00831 – CenturyTel of Ooltewah-Collegedale Tariff to Introduce Late Payment Charges

Dear Ms. Smith:

CenturyTel recently filed the above-referenced tariffs to introduce late payment charges for its three local exchange companies operating in Tennessee. To assist the Authority in its review of these tariff proposals, please provide responses to the following:

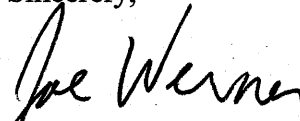
1. Provide the amount of projected annual revenues by company, including all supporting calculations, that will be generated as a result of implementation of the proposed late payment charges for:
 - a. residential service.
 - b. business service.
2. Provide the amount of estimated annual incremental costs or cost savings by company, including all supporting calculations, for the provisioning of late payment services¹ to:
 - a. residential subscribers.
 - b. business subscribers.

¹ The term "late payment services" is used to describe the costs incurred by the company to provide regulated telephone service to a subscriber for the period of time that the subscriber's account is delinquent.

3. Describe for each company, including any supporting calculations, how the implementation of the proposed late payment charges will affect the Working Capital addition to Rate Base.
4. Describe how each company presently recovers the costs of providing late payment services to:
 - a. residential subscribers.
 - b. business subscribers.
5. If the Authority approves the proposed late payment charges, does CenturyTel plan on making any off-setting reductions to the regulated rates of each company?
6. If the answer to question no. 5, above, is in the affirmative, describe the off-sets that CenturyTel will propose for each company.

We request that you submit your responses to the Authority by **Friday, August 23, 2002**. If you have any questions concerning this matter, contact Joe Shirley at 741-2904, extension 152.

Sincerely,



Joe Werner
Chief, Telecommunications Division

cc: Ms. Pamela Donavan
Supervisor, Tariffs
CenturyTel
805 Broadway
P.O. Box 9901
Vancouver, WA 98668-8701